



Grant Opportunity Available for Value-Added Products

The U.S. Dept of Agriculture has announced the availability of \$37 million in competitive grant funds to assist agricultural producers with the development and marketing of value-added products.

Grant awards are available for up to \$100,000 for planning activities, or for up to \$300,000 in working capital. The grants are targeted at assisting independent producers, producer groups, farm and ranch cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures. Grant monies may be used to fund projects directly related to the processing and/or marketing of value-added agricultural commodities.

Grants will be administered through USDA's Rural Business-Cooperative Service agency, and the application deadline is August 29, 2011. Contact Chad Stovall of USDA at (907) 761-7718 for more information.